1	2	3	4
16.	Manipur	356	540
17.	Meghalaya	494	575
18.	Mizoram	160	443
19.	Nagaland	206	331
20.	Orissa	3316	6938
21.	Punjab	517	2282
22.	Rajasthan	2878	6224
23.	Sikkim	2	82
24.	Tamil Nadu	2786	4859
25.	Tripura	21	409
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4687	5018
27.	Uttaranchal	229	768
28.	West Bengal	4939	4948
29.	A and N Islands	2	45
30.	Chandigarh	21	70
31.	D and N Haveli	4	13
32.	Daman and Diu	6	22
33.	Delhi	268	466
34.	Lakshadweep	0	9
35.	Pondicherry	68	138
	TOTAL:	58631	99140

Pending cases in courts

53. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending cases in the Supreme Court as on date;

(b) whether Government are taking any steps to reduce its role as a major litigant in the courts;

(c) whether new guidelines will be issued to various Government agencies to go to court as a last resort; and

(d) the steps propsed to conduct a wide and intense survey to withdraw from litigation by all agencies of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The number of pending cases in the Supreme Court as on 31/12/2006 is 39780.

(b) to (d) Government have issued necessary instructions from time to time to reduce its role as a major litigant. Instructions have also been issued to all the Government agencies, including Ministries/Departments for timely redressal of the genuine grievances of the employees, so as to minimize cases in the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) and courts. The need to act upon the pronouncements of the CAT, High Courts and the Supreme Court in service matters and to streamline and improve service rules and conditions so as to reduce the litigation in service matters have also been highlighted. Moreover, the application of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) techniques is also being encouraged and promoted.

Corruption in judiciary

54. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present and former Chief Justices of India have admitted before media that some judges face charges of impropriety but differ on percentage of prevalent corruption in judiciary;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure corruption-free judiciary in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) Reports in the press have come to the notice of the Government. The issue of Judicial Accountability was discussed at a Conference of Chief Justices held in 1990 and on the basis of the broad consensus emerging out of the deliberations; and Supreme Court has drawn up an In-House procedure for dealing with complaints against the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, Government has no constitutional competence to set up any Committee to look into allegation leveled against Judges of High Courts.

(c) A Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 has already been introduced in the